

- Cont #1
11. The method for producing vinegar according to claim 9 or 10 further comprising the step of desalting sea water from a concentration of 10^{-1} to 10^{-3} %.
 12. The method for producing vinegar according to claim 9 or 10 further comprising the step of adding clean natural water together with said sea water.
 13. The method for producing vinegar according to claim 9 or 10, wherein said sea water comprises a mixture of at least two selected from the group consisting of surface layer sea water, deep layer sea water, concentrated sea water and desalted sea water.
 14. A method for producing vinegar comprising the steps of:
preparing water, a portion of said water comprising at least sea water;
mixing together the water and a cereal selected from the group consisting of rice, wheat and corn; and
fermenting the mixture until vinegar is created.--

REMARKS

Applicant has canceled claims 1-6 without prejudice and added new claims 9-14. Applicant would like to point out that the new claims 9-14 clearly claim the method of making the vinegar. Applicant respectfully submits that this is not a change in the invention prosecuted in this application since, as admitted by the Examiner:

"Said vinegar is not claimed with respect to its chemical or physical makeup, but rather by the method in which it is produced."

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that at best the original claims 1-6 were product-by-process claims, but primarily process. Applicant has therefore amended the claims to make them clearly process claims. Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments to the claims are supported by the application as originally filed and do not contain any new matter. Accordingly, the Office Action will be discussed in terms of the claims as amended.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In view of the above amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 9-14 now comply with 35 USC 112, second paragraph.